

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1853.

CONGRESS.

At the beginning of the Government, in 1789, it was more than a month after the appointed day before a quorum of the Members of Congress reached New York to put the Governmental machine in operation. The rapidity with which men are now-a-days conveyed, in any number, and from the remotest points of the country, by steam—enabling a majority of the members to reach the seat of government in two days' travel—has of late years had the effect to produce a very prompt attendance, especially at the beginning of a Congress, when the business of choosing the officers and fully organizing the two Houses gives peculiar interest to the opening of the first session. Accordingly, we presume that a majority of both Houses are already in the city, or will have reached it in the course of to-day. The Democratic members, from the alarming circumstances in which the late sudden *bouleversement* has placed it and the reputed number of aspirants among them for the honor of the Chair, are here in great force. A meeting of the members of that party, of the House, has been called for this evening. Since our last publication we have heard of the arrival of the following Members:

SENATORS.

Stephen Adams, Miss. Hamilton Fish, N. Y.
James Cooper, Pa. Charles T. James, R. I.
William H. Seward, New York.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Edward Hall, Ohio. John Letcher, Va.
Thomas H. Bayly, Va. O. B. Matteson, N. Y.
John C. Breckenridge, Ky. James Maurice, N. Y.
Davis Carpenter, N. Y. Daniel Mace, Ind.
Lewis D. Campbell, Ind. Ner Middleworth, Pa.
E. M. Chamberlain, Ind. William Murray, N. Y.
James S. Chism, Ky. Edwin B. Morgan, N. Y.
Wm. M. Churchill, Tenn. Moses Macdonald, Me.
Thos. W. Cummings, N. Y. John McNair, Pa.
W. R. W. Cobb, Ala. Philip Phillips, Ala.
Burton S. Craig, N. C. John Robbins, Jr., Pa.
John G. Davis, Ind. Thomas Russell, N. C.
Gilbert Dean, N. Y. Samuel L. Russell, Pa.
John L. Dawson, Pa. H. M. Shaw, N. C.
James F. Dowdell, Ala. Nathan T. Stratton, N. J.
Norman Eddy, Ind. George A. Simmons, N. Y.
Emerson Etheridge, Tenn. Samuel A. Smith, Tenn.
Alfred P. Edgerton, Ind. Charles Skelton, N. C.
Presley Ewing, Ky. Jacob Shower, Md.
E. Wilder Farley, Me. William Smith, Va.
B. Edwards Grey, Ky. Andrew Tracey, Vt.
Wm. C. Gode, Va. John L. Taylor, Ohio
Samuel W. Harris, Ala. Charles B. Upham, Mass.
Isaac E. Heister, Pa. Hendrick B. Wright, Pa.
Harry Hubbard, N. H. William H. Witte, Pa.
John Kerr, N. C. Richard Yates, Ill.
Z. Kidwell, Va. Felix K. Zollcoffer, Tenn.
G. W. Kittredge, N. H.

MESSRS. BEALE AND HEAP'S JOURNAL.

Our readers will doubtless excuse the space which we give to this Journal, and of which a considerable part is yet to come. We read it with great interest, as being the first description we have seen of that middle part of the Rocky Mountains; and find it remarkable for the passes, the valleys, the rich soil, the cool water, and the varieties of wood. The disaster of the party at the Grand River Fork of the Great Colorado was very vexatious and distressing to them, but a great advantage to the object of the expedition, as it gave them a chance to see more of the country—Mr. HENRY returning to Taos upon a new line, and Mr. BEALE exploring round about him. It also enabled them to make acquaintance with the Utah Indians; and the hospitality which they exercised to these solitary—and we may say helpless and forlorn—travelers contrasts sadly with the subsequent massacre by parts of the same tribe of Capt. GUNNISON's party. This hospitality looks primeval. The visit of Mr. BEALE to the lodges in the beautiful valley and his reception by the aged chief (he says) reminded him of the patriarchal times described in the Bible. It will certainly remind any one of those patriarchal scenes. It will be seen that, in going through the mountains, Mr. BEALE's party were within view of the scene of Col. FLEMONT's disaster in the winter of '48-'49—"so near was he to the object of his search"—and which it has fallen to the lot of others first to describe. But he has gone to renew his winter acquaintance with those elevated regions.

The Hon. ROBERT C. SCHENCK, our late Minister to Brazil, arrived in this city on Wednesday. We are glad to see him return home, in improved health, from an official residence abroad which has been eminently honorable to himself and advantageous to his country.

THE VIRGINIA IMPROVEMENT LOANS.—The New York Times of Thursday contains the following information of the success of Mr. BAYNE in negotiating the Virginia loan bonds:

"The Commissioner for the State of Virginia, who went to Europe some months since to negotiate additional improvement loans for the public works of the Commonwealth, Mr. BAYNE, of Washington, returned in the *Atlantic* on Monday. After much trouble and embarrassment, growing out of the peculiar condition of money affairs on the other side, Mr. B. finally succeeded in making such arrangements with Messrs. Baring Brothers as will not only secure to the Commonwealth the means immediately required for her prominent railroads, but place her loans on a very eligible footing in London. To do this, and to enlist the special services of Messrs. Baring, part of the loans of Virginia were agreed to be made at five per cent. instead of federal six. This was the plan adopted by the State of Massachusetts and the city of Boston, and through the same eminent house, their loans have attained a high credit at relatively low rates of interest in England."

The good folks of the city of Mexico have been engaged in an exposition of the products of the country; and from all accounts it would seem to have been an excellent one. On the 6th ultimo President SANTA ANNA, with great ceremony, in the presence of Ministers and a large assemblage of the beauty and fashion of the city of the Montezumas, presented the various prizes.

A CONVICTED MURDERER REDEEMED.—On Friday night, November 26th, the jail at Tompkinsville, Ky., was surrounded by a mob of some sixty or a hundred persons, all dressed in disguise, who demanded of the jailer the person of Arguel McClure, convicted of murder at the last term of the Monroe Circuit Court, and sentenced to be executed on the 19th of December. Being refused, the crowd forcibly entered the prison, using violence against those who attempted to interfere, and succeeded in rescuing the prisoner. He is now at large. He is about 22 years old, is five feet ten inches in height, of light complexion, and has a downcast look. It behooves all good citizens to see that the laws of the land are not thus ruthlessly trampled upon on the very eve of execution.

SLANDER.

"The profligate rule of the late Whig Administration had thoroughly disgusted the country. The flagrant maladministration of the Departments, the neglect of the public business, the waste of the public money, the idleness and corruption of subordinates were exposed to the country, and the consequence was a cry for reformation and reform, which resounded through the land. To protect the Treasury from the Galphins, and to put an end to schemes of public plunder; to introduce into the administration of the finances principles of honesty, punctuality, and economy, was a chief and contemplated duty of a people intent on a purer and more careful administration of the public finances."

"It was their (the people's) wish, in short, that the Government should be brought back to the sphere in which moved under the Administration of the old State Rights President; that the reputation of the Republic should no longer dishonor the Republic; and that the Federal expenditure should be reduced to the lowest possible figure to which it might be brought by the purest, most faithful, and most economical administration."

"President BUREAU, then, became President under the solemn instruction of the people to execute their will by cleansing the Augean stable, and giving to history the record of another Administration unstained by corruption and distinguished by an honest and economical expenditure of the public money."

We take the above extracts from an editorial article in the Richmond Enquirer of the 23d ultimo, and we confess our surprise that such wholesale slander should be placed in the columns of that journal under its present Editors. It may plead, we know, for this gross injustice, the example of the *Union* of this city, which teems with similar unfounded allegations almost every day. But the very commonness of the offence in the *Union*, which assails with opprobrious imputations every party, faction, or man with which or whom it differs, renders it unheeded and innocuous in that print. But in the Enquirer, which has evinced latterly a more candid spirit, we cannot pass such sweeping charges in silence.

Where does the Enquirer find any foundation for the charge of profligacy on the late Whig Administration? Where do they find cause for accusing the Whig party of squandering the public treasure corruptly, or for illegitimate schemes of expenditure? During the whole term of the late Administration the Democrats had a controlling majority in both Houses of Congress, with all the committees in their hands, and consequently all the expenditure of the country completely under their control; yet at every session those Democratic majorities not only increased the appropriations far beyond the estimates submitted by the Whig Administration, but passed additional items for heavy outlays which the Whig Executive officers had not asked for, and which they did not deem necessary.

We have, on a former occasion, proved by facts and figures, taken from official documents, that the expenditures under the late Whig Administration for the regular outlay of the Government, including civil and diplomatic expenses, army, navy, &c., did not exceed those of the first year of Mr. POLK's administration, which was a year of peace; for it would not have been a fair comparison to place it against Mr. POLK's immense war expenditures. In making this comparison we of course excluded from the Whig expenditure the extra items resulting from the Mexican war, which the Democratic Administration left as a legacy to their Whig successors—such, for instance, as the interest on the war debt, the indemnity to Mexico, the rearrangements of war claims, &c.; and we showed conclusively that for the same items of expenditure as under Mr. POLK's year of peace, notwithstanding the natural increase and expansion of the country involving new outlays, the Whigs had not increased the expenditure. It is also a matter of notoriety that with the words "economy," "retrenchment," "reform," &c. constantly on their lips, every successive Democratic Administration has constantly and greatly increased the expenditures of the Treasury, not only upon the outlay of their predecessors, but each year that they were in power there was an increase on the preceding year. This was the case when Gen. JACKSON came into power. Mr. VAN BUREN's administration had the same result, and likewise Mr. POLK's.

These charges of reckless expenditure and corruption come with a very ill grace from the presses of the Democratic party when the antecedents of that party are remembered. Does the Enquirer recollect the defalcations, counting by millions, of the scores of worthies (we forbear to mention names—they are familiar to every body) under former Democratic Administrations? And though there may be some officials under the recent Whig Administration who have not settled up their accounts—it would be strange if, in the many thousand subordinates, there were not some delinquents—there is any comparison to be drawn with the gross robberies of the Treasury in the days of Democratic rule? We have not, in fact, heard the name of any one under the late Administration who has been, in the usual acceptance of the word, a defaulter; and we much doubt whether, under any preceding Administration, the fiscal concerns of the country, in all their ramified operations, have ever been administered with more economy, correctness, and honesty than under the administration of Gen. TAYLOR and Mr. FILLMORE.

As regards the gross malpractices under former Democratic Administrations, the Whigs have for years been willing to throw over them a veil of charity, and to consider that their political opponents had the right to plead a statute of limitations; and they have also even abstained from answering the continued slanders and vindictive assaults upon themselves, until some of the Democratic presses seem to think they have the right to make their sweeping and unfounded allegations with impunity.

The comparison is yet to be drawn between what will be the expenditures and the sins of omission and commission of the present Administration during its term of office; and they will have reason to consider themselves fortunate in every respect if when they render an account of their stewardship, it can stand a comparison with that of the late Whig rulers.

INTERESTING TRIALS IN NORTH CAROLINA.—The Milton Chronicle of the 24th instant has reports of two trials, which excited great interest in Person County Superior Court last week. The first was that of Col. J. Douglas, of Orange, who was tried on a suit brought by Miss Margaret Holman, of Person, for seduction, in which she claimed \$10,000 damages. The jury returned a verdict in favor of Miss Holman, and awarding the full amount (\$10,000) of damages she sued for—an amount, we venture to say, unprecedented by any similar case to be found upon record. Douglas is a married man, and therefore no breach of promise to marry was involved in the bill of complaint. The Chronicle understands that the plaintiff subsequently compromised on \$5,000. The other case was the trial of Bushrod Harris for the murder of a man named Winfree, a printer, hailing from Richmond. The jury, after about twenty minutes' deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty of murder; whereupon the court-house rang with applause.

OLD BALANCES.

The Secretary of the Treasury has been in correspondence with the Comptroller and Auditors touching the large outstanding balances due the United States. This indebtedness to the Government amounts at this time to one hundred and one millions five hundred and eighty-three thousand dollars, (101,583,000), and seventy millions is due from one branch of the service, or on the books of one of the Comptrollers. The Chief Comptroller is called upon by the Secretary of the Treasury to push these accounts to a settlement, and the Comptroller in turn has been addressing letters of complaint and inquiry to Auditors, &c. Mr. GUTHRIE intends to make a point of these delinquencies in his report to Congress—*N. Y. Express*.

We had previously heard of this movement as regards outstanding balances, and understand that the list includes every thing remaining unsettled since the foundation of the Government under the present Constitution in 1789. It is, however, not the first time the subject has been brought to the attention of Congress, as various published official documents will show the list of these outstanding balances. A very large portion, we believe, has been settled or compromised, and a large amount released under the act passed many years since for the relief of insolvent debtors to the Government. The amount now reported will, we presume, include all the official defaulters, against whom legal proceedings have been instituted, and every thing obtained that is likely to be recovered. Under these circumstances, together with the death of probably the larger portion of the debtors, we are afraid it may be called "a hopeless list;" still it is quite right to see if any of the parties are able to "walk up to the captain's office and settle."

THE PEACE OF EUROPE.

The question now is, can the flame of war which has been lighted in the Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia be confined to those Principalities, or even to Russia and Turkey? Is there any prospect of its speedy termination? The Journal of Commerce, which propounds these questions, instead of attempting to answer them itself, gives the views of its Paris correspondent, ROBERT WALSH, Esq., on this point. Mr. WALSH, being an intelligent and unbiased observer, his views are entitled to much more weight than those who feel as parties in the contest, and we therefore make the following extract from his last letter, dated at Paris on the 14th of November:

"On Friday and Saturday two Senators—observers who have access to the best sources of knowledge—conversed with me freely in my study on the aspect of foreign affairs. They interpreted the mission of General Bismarck to Constantinople as follows: A diplomatist was no longer wanted at Constantinople; the combined fleets were in the Bosphorus. If the Turks were beaten in the Principalities, and the Czar then invaded Turkish territory further, or would not evacuate the Principalities on terms suited to the policy of the allies, thirty or more thousand of French troops would be sent to operate against him, and placed under the command of the General. His previous sojourn in the Turkish capital must enable him and the many experienced officers in his suite to prepare in all respects for the execution of their real errand. Other French veteran statesmen deem Great Britain and France to be already at war with Russia. They lend the Turks not merely moral, but military support; probably they replenish the war chests of the Porte."

"The new circular of Nesselrode, dated the 31st of October, is a more pregnant, significant document than even the manifesto. The views and resolves of Russia are distinctly exhibited. No concessions are implied or shadowed forth. The two impending Powers are apprized that it will depend altogether on them whether the war shall be limited or shall involve the rest of Europe. In short, circumstances generally are more inauspicious than here before; but the steamer of the 10th may carry you authentic accounts of events of good promise."

We insert to-day an additional chapter of Col. BENTON's history, which the reader will find full of information and full of interest. We at least have found it so. That it does not present some debatable views we do not say; but it embodies a mass of facts, connected with the Indian tribes and with the policy and conduct of the Government towards those tribes, which we venture to say not one citizen in a thousand had the least idea of; and those facts, given on official authority which no one can question, serve to vindicate the character of our Government against the misstatements of foreign writers, and are calculated to rectify much misconception even at home. We like this chapter also because it extends justice to the nationality and patriotism of the Northern States on a policy deeply affecting the interest of the Southern and Southwestern States, although in the vehemence with which that policy was in some cases pressed we might not entirely concur.

TEMPERANCE IN WISCONSIN.—Notwithstanding the heavy vote given in Milwaukee against the enactment of a prohibitory liquor law in the State of Wisconsin, we observe that the vote in the counties on this question is sufficiently strong in its favor to indicate its popular acceptance. In twenty-five counties the vote is 26,065 yeas to 22,842 nays. Eleven counties remain to be heard from, the returns from which are expected to increase the majority. It is not certain, however, that a majority of the members elected to the Legislature will vote for a prohibitory law.

THE Hon. EDWARD FROST, one of the Law Judges of the Superior Court of South Carolina, intends to resign his office during the present session of the Legislature.

PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW IN MICHIGAN.—Yesterday, the 2d of December, the act prohibiting the sale of spirituous and malt liquors, wine, cider, &c., except under certain restrictions, went into operation in the State of Michigan. The law was passed by the Legislature, subject to the ratification of the people, by whose suffrages it was sustained at a regular election. On this ground it is presumed that the constitutionality of the act will be tested at the ensuing session of the Supreme Court of the United States. If the law be declared constitutional, not only the principle of prohibition will have been established, but the exercise of what many deem extraordinary legislative power will be legalized. If it be declared unconstitutional, although the principle of prohibition may not be touched, the judgment will confirm the views of many jurists who deny the power of a legislative body to submit an act to the decision of its constituents. The question is therefore a very interesting one.

Colonel HUGH MENCKE died suddenly on Thursday last at his residence in Fredericksburg, Virginia. He was in his seventy-eighth year at the time of his decease, and was the only survivor of the immediate descendants of the illustrious MEXSON of the Revolution. During his life he was well known in the most distinguished social circles of the country, and universally esteemed. He, after a long career of usefulness, illustrated by many noble virtues, in the confidence of a Christian's faith. *[North American.]*

Judge McLEAN is now in New York to act as umpire between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Church South in regard to the division of property growing out of the sectional division of the denomination. Rev. Drs. Smith and Early of Virginia, Green, of Tennessee, and Parsons, of Kentucky, appear as Commissioners for the Church South; and Messrs. Carlton, Phillips, Porter, and Rev. Dr. Peck act for the Northern Church. A Telegraph despatch, in another column, states that the difficulty has been settled.

MASSACRE OF A SURVEYING PARTY.

The Salt Lake mail which last arrived at Independence (Mo.) brings, as we learn from a Telegraphic report, sad intelligence from the Government exploring party under the command of Capt. GUNNISON.

Governor BRIGHAM YOUNG, of Utah, writes that this party had been surprised and cut off by a party of Utah Indians. An express reached Gov. Young on the 31st October from Captain Morris, giving an account of the massacre committed by the Indians on GUNNISON's party, on Sevier river. The killed are Capt. GUNNISON, Capt. KENN, of the Topographical Engineers, WM. PORTER, guide, and two others, and three privates belonging to Company A, Mounted Riflemen. All their arms, males, &c. were taken from them.

Capt. GUNNISON and twelve of his command had separated from the rest, and whilst at their breakfast a band of Indians, intending to destroy the Mormon village near at hand, came suddenly upon them, firing first a volley with their rifles and then using their bows. The arrows and shots were returned by Capt. Gunnison's party, but he was quickly overpowered by the savages, and only four persons escaped to tell the sad news. Capt. Gunnison had twenty-six arrows shot into his body, and when found one arm was off.

The notes of the survey, instruments, and animals, &c. were all taken by the Indians. The survey had been nearly completed, and the party intended soon to go into winter quarters.

Governor YOUNG, on learning the dreadful intelligence, immediately sent aid to Capt. Morris to obtain his release and the lost property of the expedition. Captain Morris was in a critical position, in the midst of a hostile and treacherous band of Indians.

A party of Cheyennes surrounded the mail and demanded the provisions of those having charge of it, which were readily all given up.

THE FISHERY TREATY.

The public press is already discussing the merits of the new treaty said to have been negotiated by the Secretary of State and the British Minister. We give below the views of two of the most intelligent and respectable of the commentators—one for and one against the conditions of the treaty.

FROM THE NEW YORK EXPRESS.

"We have rumors of an agreement between the Secretary of State and the British Minister as to a Reciprocal Treaty. The terms mentioned are:

"The surrender of the United States of her entire coasting trade—all on the Atlantic and all the Pacific, and all on the bays, estuaries, &c. which indent our thousands of miles of sea coast; in a word, the surrender by the United States of all the commercial privileges that Great Britain ever asked of us, including the free admission of all the agricultural productions of the British provinces. In return for this we have to have the free admission to the British waters for fishing, and the free interchange of agricultural products."

"Many have argued, and none more strenuously than those connected with the present Administration, that these fishing rights were already ours, under existing treaties; and yet to secure what was claimed to be our own Mr. Mayor has surrendered one of the most valuable rights in the gift of the Government. I cannot believe an American Senate will consent to surrender its entire coasting trade for any fishing rights which we can secure in the gift of Great Britain. These privileges have been reduced from year to year, even when enjoyed by us to their full extent, and yet we propose particularly to give an American registry to every British vessel which may visit our shores. As an American I hope and pray not."

In alluding further to the reported terms of the treaty the Express says:

"It is to be seen, all duties must be taken off from cordage, hemp, iron, and copper used in American built ships, or there will be no equality in the competition. The State of Maine, which has been the greatest sufferer from the inefficiency of the Administration in the matter of the fisheries, will also be the greatest sufferer by this arrangement, as she is the largest ship builder."

The Washington correspondent of the *Journal of Commerce* expresses, *contra*, the following views:

"The treaty respecting the Fisheries and Reciprocal Trade with the Canadian and the other British North American colonies is now believed, as I advised you yesterday, to be agreed upon as far as the British Minister, Mr. CRAMPTON, and our Government are concerned. The negotiation was commenced at Marshall, between Mr. CRAMPTON and Mr. WEBSTER, after the late-upon the fishing grounds in the summer of 1852. It was recommended by Mr. EVANS, last winter, and brought very nearly to a close by the late treaty before the Senate at the late session. But delays and difficulties ensued, and deferred this consummation. The Queen, it may be remembered, referred to the subject in her speech at the opening of Parliament, nearly a year ago, in a manner which showed that the British Ministry were heartily bent upon the adjustment of the matter on terms mutually beneficial to the United States and to the Colonies. Mr. CRAMPTON was specially charged with the negotiation, and is deeply interested in its favorable result, for the accomplishment of the object would give him high character and speedy promotion."

"Gov. MARY renewed the negotiation with Mr. CRAMPTON, and has been very busily engaged in its prosecution, more so than has been imagined. The Secretary and the Minister, during the summer months, retired to Berkeley Springs, in Virginia, for the purpose of confining their consultations. The result was, as it now appears, a treaty project, which was sent to London for the ratification of the British Government in October last, as I have before mentioned."

"A short time ago I understood from a colonial source, likely to be well informed on this subject, that no treaty could be concluded without a concession of the registry of colonial vessels, and their admission to our coasting trade. But it seems that this was no obstacle with Mr. MARY, and it ought not to have been. The stipulations, whatever they may be, are reciprocal, and our people cannot shrink from a competition with colonial vessels. It is important to us to have the trade of the British colonies, as well as the inshore fisheries. There are many reasons why we should invite them to a full participation in our coasting trade, and none for their exclusion from it."

The Hon. J. P. BENJAMIN, United States Senator elect from Louisiana, has been honored with a public dinner from his fellow-members of the Boston Club—a society composed of some of the most prominent citizens of New Orleans. The dinner came off at the St. Charles Hotel, and is described as a brilliant affair. Mr. BENJAMIN, in a speech, gracefully acknowledged the honor done him and adverted feelingly to the time when, a poor and friendless boy, he went to New Orleans twenty-six years ago; and expressed the gratitude he felt to his fellow-citizens for the uninterrupted kindness, encouragement, and confidence with which they had treated him."

Comptroller FLAGG, of the city of New York, has rendered his Report of Estimates of City Expenditures for the coming year. He makes the amount of tax-levy \$545,814 less than that of the year 1853. The total amount required for expenditures of the city government, exclusive of the pay of police and the cost of lamps and gas, is \$2,346,038. For police expenses \$826,515 are asked; for lamps and gas \$231,100. The requirements of the Board of Education are met by \$632,813. The deficiency of taxation of 1853 is stated at \$128,770. The estimated expenditures for street cleaning is reduced to \$140,000, being a decrease of \$110,000 since last year's estimates.

In the Circuit Court at Albany, before Judge WASON, a verdict of \$2,100 damages has been rendered against the Hudson River Railroad Company, at the suit of Mr. Doyle, for severe and lasting injuries which the plaintiff received a year or two since at Croton while a passenger in the defendant's cars.

THE DEMOCRACY AND THE COMPROMISE.

FROM THE NEW YORK EVENING POST OF THURSDAY.

The Charleston Mercury in the following sentence packs away a great deal of truth:

"The South has gained nothing but a loss by this law. It was a stupid blunder on the part of Southern statesmen. The value of the slave lost is eaten up by capture follows, while hatred to the institution abroad and opposition to it at home are increased by its *hard features* and the *barbarous enforcement* of them."

This is precisely what we have said, more voluminously, many times since the compromise measures were passed.

While we are speaking of the compromise, we take occasion to put on record the interpretation which the Washington Union of Wednesday, in an article not very remarkable for the leonism that distinguishes the quotation from the Charleston print, puts upon the Baltimore platform. Speaking of the Convention at which it was presented, that journal says:

"The friends of the compromise at once saw that there could be no argument upon a proposition to *approve* the measures of adjustment. The enemies of the compromise saw and conceded that there could be no union upon the proposition to *oppose* the adjustment, either as unjust to the North or the South. Neither division was expected to be willing to yield its distinctive opinion, and to adopt one entirely antagonistic; but each division was animated by a common desire to withdraw the slavery agitation from the future discussions of the party. This sentiment, which pervaded the entire delegation, furnished the basis of a compromise which resulted in the attainment of the union of the party."

AGAIN, THE UNION SAYS:

"The proposition on which the delegates harmonized was the result of earnest and repeated consultations between Democrats who entertained widely different views as to the merits of the compromise measures. It was impossible to agree upon any proposition which required either the advocates or the opponents of these measures to surrender their opinions and acknowledge that they had been in error. Upon such a proposition the disorganization and disruption of the party were inevitable. If the Baltimore platform had expressly *approved* or *disapproved* the compromise, the nominees would have met with certain defeat. The friends of the measures of adjustment never had the strength to elect a President; and this fact ought to impress itself upon the minds of those Democrats who claim from the Administration more consideration towards the original advocates of the compromise than they are supposed to have received. On the other hand, if all the opponents of the laws of adjustment could have united on a nomination, (a thing wholly impracticable,) they could have had no hope of success. It was only in the cordial union of the Democracy that a Democratic triumph could be secured; and it was only upon the proposition of acquiescence in the compromise, as a final settlement of the slavery agitation, that such a union could be attained."

THE DEMOCRACY OF OHIO.

FROM THE ALBANY EVENING ARGUS OF WEDNESDAY.

At the late State election in Ohio a majority [plurality] of sixty thousand or thereabouts was given for the Democratic State ticket. The Washington Union, the Albany Atlas, and other organs of Northern Coalition, set up a loud cry of exultation and rejoicing. It was echoed by the Richmond Enquirer and other Southern presses which know nothing about the facts, and which doubtless supposed that the "Democratic party" in Ohio was like the Democratic party in Virginia or New Jersey, a party acquiescing—to use the mildest term—in the doctrines of the Baltimore platform.

We pointed out to these presses that the Democratic organization of Ohio, as it existed in 1848, had capitulated at discretion to the Free-soilers; had abandoned the principles of the Democratic party of the Union; and had solemnly adopted in State Convention an anti-slavery platform. We submitted whether a triumph secured by such a sacrifice of principle was not a triumph over which a National Democrat should rather mourn than rejoice, and was not in fact a triumph of the Free-soilers of that State.

These remarks were the signal for an outburst of vituperation and abuse on the part of the Free-soil Atlas, the Free-soil Cincinnati Enquirer, and other pensionaries of Coalitionism, in the course of which the Argus was accused of misquoting "Democratic" victories and seeking to assail a Democratic Administration. The Washington Union formally acknowledged the Ohio victors as Democrats in full communion with its school; and, though it never dared deny or even retract our allegations, it virtually refused to admit them. We were in no wise surprised at this, for even at that time it was evident that the Union had determined to stand or fall by that principle of plunder which, in its blindness, it imagined could unite the opposite doctrines of antagonistic parties in one harmonious whole.

We have now an authoritative exposition of the "Democratic" platform in Ohio, from a speech lately delivered by the Hon. SALMON P. CHASE, one of the United States Senators from that State, which fully bears out our assertions as to the manner in which the late victory was achieved. He frankly discloses the beastly coalition to which the Washington Union's "Administration triumph" was subsequently due. Mr. Chase, it will be remembered, was a supporter of Van Buren and Adams in 1848, and a prominent member of the Buffalo Convention in that year. His party in the succeeding year coalesced in Ohio, as in this State, with the Democrats, and upon very nearly the same terms, and as a consequence, he says:

"In Ohio the Whigs have fallen considerably at the late election, but that vote is not a fair index of their real strength. But the vote of the other party, the independent Democrats and the old line Democrats, may be taken as a fair test of their strength. We cast for John P. Hale for President 31,000 votes; we cast for our State ticket about 34,000, although some of the candidates received as high as 35,000 votes, and none less than 22,000. We, therefore, have gained, and when circumstances are taken into consideration a large increase will be found to have taken place. The old line Democrats have adopted an anti-slavery platform, looking upon slavery as a great evil, and professing to use every means in their power to eradicate it in the best manner possible. Now, that is exactly our doctrine; all that we demand of the Government is, that it should use all its efforts to eradicate slavery in the United States. The difference between the independent and old line Democrats is, that the independents refuse their support to national candidates, while the old line Democrats submit to the support of candidates whose platforms are antagonistic to the State platform. The next State Convention in Ohio will reject the platform, and thus there will be a hard party; but the soil of that State is rather soft, and will not therefore be suited to the tastes of the hard. But I do not believe there will ever be a soft party in that State. As to the future, no one can express an opinion with certainty."

It appears from this admission that the leaven of nationalism is working in Ohio, and that at the next State Convention there is a probability of an effort being made to break to pieces this infamous coalition with the Western Reserve abolitionists and fanatics. We hail this promise; and, even though the purified Democracy cannot claim majorities of sixty thousand for their ticket, we hope to record a wholesome vote, and one which will prove that in future contests they will preserve the faith unfeigned, even at the price of temporary defeat.

The workmen who had been engaged at one dollar per day to assist in repairing the damage made by the late storm on the Naugatuck railroad track for higher wages in the midst of their operations, demanding two dollars per day. Within an hour the contractor hired fifty men to take their places, when the strikers struck their colors and went to work for 57½ cents per day.

THE CAPTURE OF SHANGHAI.

The following interesting narrative of the capture of the city of Shanghai was written by an intelligent American, long resident there, to his friend in New York, who furnished it to the Commercial Advertiser for publication:

SHANGHAI, SEPTEMBER 15, 1853. I awoke on the morning of the 7th and heard that there had been a great disturbance in the city. I started with a companion at about 7 o'clock A. M. to satisfy myself as to what had taken place, and found that a revolution had very quietly been effected during the night. The Taotai was a prisoner, and the place in the undisturbed possession of a band who are only distinguishable from coolies and such people by their crimson badges. The district magistrate, who was personally unpopular, was the only man killed, so far as I can learn, by the insurgents. The guard at the gate and some of the Taotai's men received a few scratches; but otherwise, strange as it may appear, a city having 200,000 inhabitants was "imperial" at night and "rebel" on the following morning, no one anticipating the coup d'état, and only one or two men hurt in its execution. Truly, the Chinese are a wonderful people!

I walked through the place within a few hours of the overthrow of its authorities. Armed men were parading and keeping guard, common looking rascals enough, if not dangerous; but the people looked as calmly and unconcerned as though the change interested them only by its novelty. The revolution was complete, rapidly but effectually wrought.

A week has elapsed since the affair. The insurgents are still in possession of the city. A great many coolies and the lower ranks of the people are constantly joining them, and there appears to be no chance of the imperialists regaining the place. The Taotai (Samung that was) is now under the wing of the American Consul, living in the house of an American merchant, shorn of all his authority, of course; and it is said that on his parole to have nothing to do with the Emperor's cause.

The affair seems to have arisen in the Triad Society, and to have been brought about by Canton, Chinchoo, and Fokien men. It is almost impossible, I believe, for any thing to link out from such an association, and nothing could have been done to check the matter by surprise except by the members of the Triad and similar societies. There are various opinions about the connection or understanding between these Shanghai insurgents and the actual rebel forces in Kweichow.

The Shanghai men declare that their object is to assist in establishing a new dynasty, and they say they are in correspondence with the King-Ping-Wang, and intend to put themselves under his direction. Two days after the capture I went into the city and had an interview with the leader of the rebels, the Cantonese, who is the chief of the party at present. He told me positively that he had twice written to Nankin and was hourly expecting a messenger back. He professed to be anxious to receive the commands of the King-Ping-Wang, and said that he had no intention of doing just what they say they have done. His army are a hard set. The Chinchoo men have also a chief, and the Fokien men and the Northern men one or two. All these are within the city and appear to have equal authority. The noble leader whom I had the honor of meeting has been a broker for opium and a thief, and is almost used up with opium-smoking. Another in his party was horse-boy to a friend of mine very recently. Nearly every influential man among them speaks English, and some Singapore Chinamen speak it as fluently as we. No Chinamen of rank or position are to be seen in any connection with these rebels, and as far as foreigners have been able to learn the chiefs and authorities among them are men of no character and of very mean abilities. The missionaries particularly speak of them with unqualified severity. They deny that they have any connection with the Nankin men, and say that they are a mere rabble of the lowest sort, and that any hour may see the city given up to riot and plunder. We shall see. Meanwhile many foreigners are in considerable affliction; and sailors and mariners are making up for the necessary arrangements made to repel any attack upon the foreign houses. Half a dozen towns in the neighborhood have broken into revolt; others give symptoms of a similar purpose, and there is nothing to hinder them if they choose to do so.

It seems pretty clear to me that the Imperial Majesty will not speedily or easily retake Shanghai. Beyond this I really find it difficult to form a decided opinion upon the nature and result of the movement.

THE FATE OF FRANKLIN.

Some of the British seamen and the brave seamen who have faced the Arctic ice "took counsel together" on the 14th, at the Royal Geographical Society, as to the consequences of the discovery of the Northwest Passage and respecting the fate of Franklin.

Sir RODRICK MURCHISON expressed the pride he felt at occupying the chair for the first time after the practical demonstration of the existence of the northwest passage. He despised those who asked the question, *why* of course of sailors and mariners, and he said that the necessary arrangements made to repel any attack upon the foreign houses. Half a dozen towns in the neighborhood have broken into revolt; others give symptoms of a similar purpose, and there is nothing to hinder them if they choose to do so.

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